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K. Lee

n re Patent Application of

de Almeida

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

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EXCLUSIVE SUBSTITUTE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND EXCLUSIVE PROSECUTION HEREAFTER BY ASSIGNEE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.36, 3.71 AND 3.73

Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras, being the owner of all right, title and interest in the above-identified patent application, hereby revokes all previous powers of attorney in this case, if any, and hereby appoints Nixon & Vanderhye, P.C., 1100 North Glebe Rd., 8th Floor, Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714, telephone number (703) 816-4000, facsimile number (703) 816-4100, and the following attorneys thereof (of the same address) individually and collectively its attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith, and with the resulting patent: Larry S. Nixon, 25640; Arthur R. Crawford, 25327; James T. Hosmer, 30184; Robert W. Faris, 31352; Richard G. Besha, 22770; Mark E. Nusbaum, 32348; Michael J. Keenan, 32106; Bryan H. Davidson, 30251; Stanley C. Spooner, 27393; Leonard C. Mitchard, 29009; Duane M. Byers, 33363; Jeffry H. Nelson, 30481; John R. Lastova, 33149; H. Warren Burnam, Jr. 29366; Mary J. Wilson, 32955; J. Scott Davidson, 33489; Alan M. Kagen, 36178;

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Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras also authorizes Nixon & Vanderhye to delete any attorney names/numbers no longer with the firm and to act and rely solely on instructions communicated from the person, attorney, firm or other organization sending instructions to Nixon & Vanderhye on behalf of the owner.

Certificate Under 37 -C.F.R. §3.73(b)

Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras, a corporation having a place of business at Avenida República do Chile, No. 65, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, states that it is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the patent application identified above by virtue of an assignment from the inventors to the aforesaid assignee, recorded at the United States Patent Office on January 26, 1994 at reel 6860, frame 0488.

The undersigned (whose title is typed below) is empowered to sign this statement on behalf of Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras.

By:

Rio de Janeiro 27 April, 2001

Date

Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras

Name: Antônio Claudio C.M. Sant'Anna

Title: Intellectual Property Manager

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